GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2796
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2000
VACCINE DRUG FOR HEPATITIS-B
VAIKO

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pharmaceutical companies have developed/produced vaccines and drug for Hepatitis-B;

(b) if so, the names of the companies and also of vaccines and drug and date on which these products has been marketed after approval from Drug Controller;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to undertake universal vaccination of entire population of the country against Hepatitis-B with the assistance of World Health Organisation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)&(b): Four pharmaceutical companies have been granted permission to manufacture and market Hepatitis-B vaccine and three companies have been granted similar permission for the drug lamivudine for treating chronic Hepatitis-B infection.
Details of the companies given such approval alongwith dates of approval are given below:-

Hepatitis-B Vaccine:-

i) M/s Shanta Biotechmics (P) Ltd., Hyderabad. 13.8.1997.
ii) M/s Bharat Biotech Ltd., Hyderabad. 14.10.1998
iii) M/s Wockhardt Ltd., Mumbai. 06.10.1999
iv) M/s Transgene Vacine Ltd., Hyderabad 02.03.2000

Lamivudine:-

i) M/s Cipla Ltd., Mumbai 25.10.1999
ii) M/s Glaxo (India) Ltd., Mumbai. 25.10.1999
iii) M/s Cadila Health Care Ltd., Ahmedabad 25.10.1999.

(c)to(e): There is no proposal to undertake universal vaccination of the entire population against Hepatitis-B primarily due to the cost factor . Only pilot project in East Delhi was supported by World Health Organisation:but its coverage level could not be sustained because of erratic supplies of that vaccine.
The Department of Family Welfare is considering a pilot project for introduction of Hepatitis B vaccination in selected States and districts with financial assistance from donors.